

# The Advisor

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Official Weekly Command Information Report for the Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq



On the move

'Defenders of  
Iraq' take up new  
Ramadi post



May 7, 2005

# MNSTC-I

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U.S. Army  
Sgt. Lorie Jewell

## CPATT Public Affairs Liaison

Ann Bertucci

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Direct questions and comments to:  
pao@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

MNSTC-I PAO  
APO AE 09316  
DPN: 318-852-1334

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**Cover:** Iraqi Sgt. Maj. Ali Celan Rhadi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division, marches his soldiers to the trucks in preparation for the unit's deployment to Ramadi May 5.

Photo by U.S. Army Capt. Larry George

# General: Zarqawi losing support

**By John D. Banusiewicz**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Any remaining support among Iraqis for fugitive Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is fading as his network's attacks continue to take aim at their country's security forces and civilians, the director of operations for the Joint Staff said at a Pentagon news conference May 5.

U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. James T. Conway, who commanded the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force during two combat tours in Iraq, said he's "absolutely confident" that if Zarqawi stays in Iraq, he'll be captured or killed.

"And I might add that I think his stock is running pretty thin with the Iraqi people," Conway said. "He continues to take credit for some of these massive attacks where Iraqis - Iraqi civilians in particular -- are killed in large numbers. And it's our belief, and I think some of the trends are starting to indicate, that there's a saturation point that the Iraqi citizens are starting to get to." Iraqi citizens more frequently are providing authorities with tips helpful in fighting the insurgency, he noted.

Conway addressed reports that Zarqawi narrowly avoided capture during a recent raid on a hospital in Ramadi and that the terrorist mastermind might have been at the hospital because he is ill or injured.

"(The raid) was not based, necessarily, upon information that Zarqawi was there," Conway told reporters. "We have not been able to confirm that Zarqawi was either wounded in

a firefight in Rawah or was receiving treatment at the hospital. We were simply told that a group of insurgents were there, and the Marines and soldiers responded, circled the hospital, and went in." No evidence of Zarqawi's presence at the hospital was found, he noted.

The general said forces involved in the search for Zarqawi respond any time they receive a tip that might lead his way. "And as you might imagine, with a \$25 million reward on his head, we get a lot of tips and a lot of rumors of Zarqawi sightings," Conway said. The general noted he was "absolutely confident" that the terrorist leader would be captured or killed.

Conway said the capture in Pakistan of Abu Faraj al-Libbi, operations chief for Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terror network, was accomplished with no U.S. military involvement.

"I think that the Pakistani people should be delighted that their security forces have completed such a sophisticated operation," the general said. "Remember, this guy tried to kill their president twice. He was their No. 1 terrorist, and now their commandos have taken him down and put him behind bars."

Conway said that with Libbi now in custody, other terrorists have something to think about. "I think it should send a strong message to bin Laden and his followers that you are not going to rest in peace as long as this global war on terrorism is in search of you and your compatriots," he said. "We will hunt you to your dying days and either capture you, or kill you if you resist."

**"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."** — Edmund Burke (1729-1797)

# Iraqi Army battalion relocates to Ramadi

By U.S. Army Capt. Larry George

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – They are formerly referred to as the “Defenders of Baghdad”, but in actuality these units are “Defenders of Iraq”. These brothers-in-arms, formed as a militia unit to provide security for the Jan. 30 elections, began movement to Ramadi as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division.

Approximately 300 soldiers departed the gates of Al Bakr College May 5 on a mission to defend the streets of Ramadi from insurgent forces and terrorism. Iraqi security forces are deploying throughout the nation in a concentrated effort to counter the insurgency and bring law and order to every part of Iraq.

Although the unit was originally formed to provide localized security for a specific area in Baghdad, the soldiers appeared confident and motivated to relocate 70 miles west of the capital city.

“We are all in the same Army and country and we are looking forward to the move to Ramadi,” said Iraqi Sgt. Maj. Ali Celan Rhadi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division.

Rhadi could be seen as a major force and influence in the unit during the morning preparations to deploy. He moved throughout the college compound, directing and assisting soldiers in the loading of the trucks. Soldiers worked feverishly to load everything from personal foot lockers to bed frames as they prepared to depart before lunch.



Iraqi soldiers cheer and bid farewell to departing troops from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division, as they depart to Ramadi May 5.

Photo by U.S. Army Capt. Larry George

“Our efforts have produced a great group (of soldiers),” said Rhadi. “I am proud of them and I think this is something from the heart.”

While moving half of a battalion and its equipment was a huge undertaking, the operation was very successful, according to Col. Khalid Salman Shineair, commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division.

“I told the whole battalion that they could be moving to Ramadi today, so that replacements would be prepared if we needed them to load the trucks,” said Col. Khalid. “We had a good result today and I am pleased.”

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division conducted its movement to Ramadi in April, but according to Iraqi and Coalition officials, that deployment was not as orderly and efficient as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion’s efforts.

“This (operation) is smooth,” said U.S. Marine Capt. Wade Reaves, Iraqi Security Forces Liaison Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Expeditionary Forces. “This Iraqi unit wants to make things happen.” He contributed the successful execution of the movement to the detailed coordination and complete involvement of the Iraqi leadership.



An Iraqi soldier carries a mattress frame to the truck in preparation for the unit’s deployment to Ramadi May 5.

Photo by U.S. Army Capt. Larry George

See ‘Relocate’

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## Relocate

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The Iraqi leadership planned, organized and executed the deployment with little involvement from Coalition forces. The 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Motor Transportation Regiment from Taji provided the sole vehicular support needed for both the equipment and personnel convoys. A total of 30 trucks and about 120 personnel supported both of the movements.

The vehicle officer responsible for the equipment portion of the operation was quick to highlight the readiness and capabilities of his personnel and equipment. He spoke proudly of his unit's training, which has included convoy operations security, procedures for dealing with improvised explosive devices and contingency plans.

"I have trained my soldiers about everything especially the trucks and have even trained them on infantry skills," said Lt. Alaa Yasur Fahed, vehicle officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Motor Transportation Regiment. He compared his unit to a "miracle team" capable of handling any life-threatening or serious operation.

The other half of the battalion will remain at the college base to continue training while plans are finalized for their



Iraqi Sgt. Maj. Ali Celan Rhadi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division, supervises his soldiers as they load vehicles in preparation for their deployment to Ramadi.

Photo by U.S. Army Capt. Larry George

movement in the near future.

As remaining leaders and fellow soldiers of the battalion bid farewell to the passing troops and the last truck departed the college gates, a light rain began to fall.

"When it rains, it means good things will happen," said Khalid.

# Control of An Numaniyah base now in Iraqi hands

**By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell**

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

AN NUMANIYAH, Iraq – After months of preparation, control of the An Numaniyah Iraqi Army base transferred May 5 from the Coalition to the Ministry of Defense.

Until now, the base infrastructure, life support functions and maintenance had been provided by a Coalition-funded contractor. A MOD base support unit now has responsibility for running the facility, which is home to an operational Army brigade and training center.

Coalition and Iraqi officials deemed the transition successful.

The transition included a post-wide inventory, creation of a monthly budget and a lengthy hiring review, said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Mark Harvey, base commander for the Coalition forces. The previous life support pro-

vider, the private contractor firm Eurst Support Services, was very helpful in the transition process, he added.



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Mark Harvey, base commander for Coalition forces, poses with Iraqi Col. Bader, commander of the An Numaniyah Iraqi Army base, on the day control was transferred to the Ministry of Defense. Photo courtesy Iraqi Col. Bader

A team made up of MOD officials and personnel from the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq's Coalition Military Assistance Training Team traveled from Baghdad to An Numaniyah to conduct the transition.

The new food contractor is providing meals that are well-received by the Iraqi soldiers, Harvey said.

Coalition forces will remain on base for several months, serving as advisers, Harvey said.

"There is definitely a different feeling to the post, as the Iraqi BSU took on a whole new perspective and intensity to their roles," Harvey said.

This was the second BSU turn-over this year. Control of the Umm Qasr Naval Base exchanged hands March 17.



# Graduation adds 1,613 new soldiers to Iraqi Army

**By U.S. Army Lt. Col. Fred Wellman**  
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUSH, Iraq – To the cheers of more than 800 fellow trainees, 1,613 infantry and transport soldiers of Basic Combat Training Class 09 became graduates of the Iraqi Training Battalion.

Representing a cross section of Iraq, 1,317 members of the class were honored May 3 for completing eight weeks of basic infantry training, with 300 additional soldiers completing an additional three weeks of driver training.

The ceremony at the Kirkush Military Training Base in eastern Iraq featured the new graduates conducting drills and passing in review to the drums of the KMTB band. As they cleared the field, a platoon of soldiers high stepped to the center and formed a human pyramid three layers high. As the final soldier climbed the backs of his peers, he pulled out an Iraqi flag from his jacket. Soldiers in the stands cheered wildly as he held it up while maintaining his balance on the shoulders of another soldier.

In the steep bleachers, basic trainees clearly enjoyed the opportunity to sit and enjoy the ceremony. Alternating between a distinctly Iraqi form of the wave to rocking back and forth, with arms slung around their neighbor's shoulders and singing songs, the camaraderie was a familiar sight to any soldier who has struggled through basic training, in any uniform. It was clear that weeks of intense training was creating a bond of brotherhood.

The graduating soldiers will be transferred into three different Iraqi divisions and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Motor Transport Regiment. They will join more than 161,000 trained and equipped Iraqi Security Forces defending their country against anti-Iraq forces.



The May 3 KMTB graduation featured formations of soldiers proudly bearing unit crests and colors (counter clockwise from top), displaying camaraderie in the stands, passing in review, and forming a three-layer high pyramid to display the Iraqi flag — a feat that drew enthusiastic cheers from the stands.

Photos by U.S. Army Lt. Col. Fred Wellman

# Iraqi officer carries on family tradition

**By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell**

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – In Iraqi Lt. Col. Burhan's family, training and working with Americans isn't a new concept.

Burhan's father, Hasan Sharif, earned his flight wings after going through a U.S. pilot training course at Fort Wolters, Texas in 1966. Sharif, a captain at the time, retired as a major general in 1984 after 26 years of service. He died three years ago, just before the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Now Burhan, who for security purposes does not use his full name, is following the lead his father started some four decades ago. Burhan works closely with the J-4 section of the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq, focusing on joint logistics training.

"We're learning their logistics system and they're learning ours," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. George Crowell. "He's helping develop how logistics will operate in the new Iraqi Army."

Crowell, a liaison between MNSTC-I and Iraq's Ministry of Defense, has been working beside Burhan for a few months. He was touched when Burhan showed him photos of his father's experiences.

"He was proud that he went to an American flight school,



Then-Iraqi Capt. Hasan Sharif gets classroom instruction from a U.S. Air Force captain at Fort Wolters, Texas. Sharif's son, Iraqi Lt. Col. Burhan, believes the captain's name was Robert H. Schnoop. Although his father died a little more than three years ago, Burhan would like to reconnect with the captain and share with him how much the training meant to his father, who retired from the Iraqi Air Force in 1984 as a major general.

Photo courtesy Iraqi Lt. Col. Burhan

otherwise he wouldn't have kept the pictures all these years," Crowell said. "That's something to think about while we're here, that what we do with people may become memories for the rest of their lives."

Growing up in Baghdad, Burhan was

immersed in his father's love of flight. He can name just about every type of bird his dad flew – the English Westland, the French Gazelle and Allouett, Russian MI 4, MI8, MI17 and MI24, among others. After his time in Texas, Sharif added the UH-1H "Huey" and the OH-58, now called the Bell 206 "Jet Ranger."



Iraqi Lt. Col. Burhan's father, Hasan Sharif, went through pilot training at Fort Wolters, Texas in the late 1960s.

Photo courtesy Iraqi Lt. Col. Burhan

Burhan still vividly recalls the ride his father gave him in a Westland helicopter. He was 11 years old.

"After that, and because of my father, I wanted to be a pilot when I grew up," Burhan said, through an interpreter.

At 18, Burhan was off to the military college at Rustamiyah. A year and a half later, he joined the Iraqi Army engaged in the war with Iran. His hope of being a pilot was dashed when the Army gave him an engineer job. At that time, a soldier could not choose his job field, Burhan said.

He remained an engineer in the Iraqi Army until it was disbanded following the 2003 fall of Saddam Hussein. He spent a year at home with his wife and three children, working at a supermarket with his brother. Burhan said his wife was happy to have him home, but he was anxious to be back in uniform. All that time with his wife was leading to a lot of arguments, he said, grinning.

Burhan said he is hopeful his country is heading in the right direction, and that everything will go well with establishing a new government. He enjoys working with Americans, just as his father once did.

"The best thing about them is you can trust them," Burhan said. "They go straight for something to get it done, they don't go right or left."

It's a characteristic Burhan not only appreciates, but shares. At 40 and with a good two decades of service to his country, Burhan still holds the hope of being a pilot.

"If the opportunity comes, I would do it," Burhan said. "I have not given up that dream."



# Iraqi Assistance Group partners advisers with forces

**By Spc. Curt Cashour**

14th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — While a number of countries have contributed to the success of Operation Iraqi Freedom, completing the overall mission hinges on the achievements of one nation: Iraq. In order for the country to stabilize, Iraq must have a robust network of security forces to include military and police contingents.

According to an April 23 radio address by President George W. Bush, the number of trained and equipped Iraqi security forces now exceeds 150,000.

To keep these forces growing, the Iraqi Assistance Group, a military team co-located in Kuwait and Iraq operating under the command and control of the Multi National Security Transition Command-Iraq, is helping to partner teams of American military advisers with Iraq's burgeoning security forces.

For the past two months the IAG group in Kuwait has been helping these advisory teams navigate through Kuwait on their way to Iraq, said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Tony Morales of the 98<sup>th</sup> Division, an institutional training Reserve unit headquartered in Rochester, N.Y.

As chief of operations for IAG-Kuwait, Morales, 43, oversees 12 soldiers who support the reception, staging and onward integration of the teams, which hail from all branches of the military.

So far, 220 advisors have passed through Kuwait. Next month, nearly 400 are scheduled to shuffle through. According to Morales, the trend is going to continue.

"This is the priority mission for the theater. Last year we were focusing on fighting the insurgency. Now we're concentrating on training the Iraqis to do it," he said.

Once they leave Kuwait, the teams travel to the Phoenix Academy at Camp Cooke, Iraq, where they'll spend about three weeks working through mission-related problem solving exercises and case studies. After the training at Cooke, the teams will be ready to partner with an Iraqi unit. Advisory team deployments typically last for a year, Morales said.

The teams often consist of 10-man groups composed of both commissioned and noncommissioned officers who have proven themselves adept at problem solving and adapting to different types of situations, Morales said.

Specializing in all types of security functions, the teams will advise and help train Iraqi forces in the art of operations at battalion, brigade and division levels. They will not, however, be in charge of the Iraqis.

"It's a balance between doing it for [the Iraqis] and making suggestions," Morales said.

Once paired with a unit, the advisers immerse themselves in Iraqi culture by eating, living and training with Iraqi service members, Morales said.

To help them better relate to their Iraqi counterparts, the advisors receive training in cultural awareness and extensive instruction in Arabic before leaving the United States.

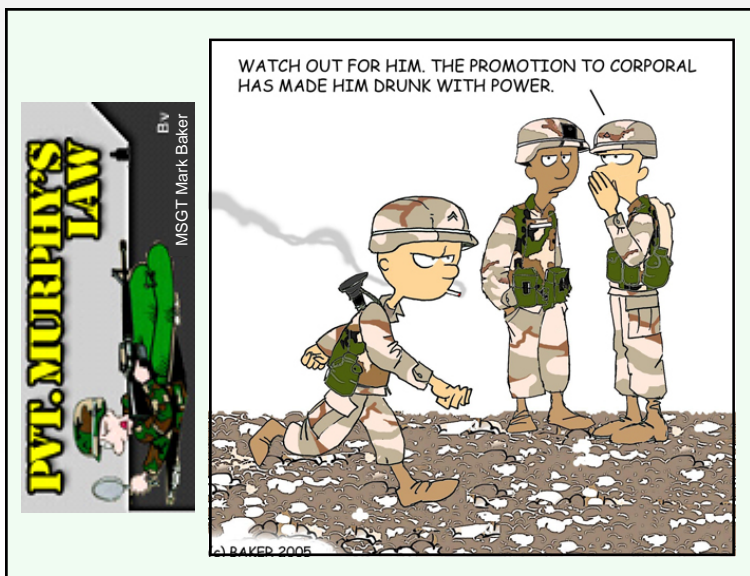
"It was a college year of Arabic shoved down our throats in 30 hours," said Capt. Jack Rebolledo, 33,

part of an advisory team made up of Soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 163<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery, a National Guard unit from Evansville, Ind.

The language and cultural training has put the advisers leaps ahead of American Soldiers who have previously deployed to the Middle East, said Maj. John Osborne, part of an advisory team composed of Soldiers from the 100<sup>th</sup> Division, a Reserve unit from Louisville, Ky.

The 39-year-old Osborne served in Desert Storm. During the conflict, then 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Osborne was shocked when a local contractor tried to hold his hand. With the help of the cultural-awareness training, Soldiers will now know that such an act is merely a friendly gesture, he said.

A member of an advisory team from the 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, a National Guard unit headquartered in Fort Belvoir, Va., 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul Chenevert will soon be working with members of a newly-formed Iraqi infantry battalion. Once Chenevert, 33, and his team members are satisfied with the progress of the Iraqi unit, the group will begin conducting missions. Advisory members will be there to monitor the group's progress and serve as liaisons between the Iraqi unit and Coalition forces.



# Joint force eliminates lines at Iraq gas pumps

**By Staff Sgt. Raymond Drumsta**  
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

TIKRIT, Iraq – New gas pumps and gas stations, repairs and increased security have now eliminated long lines at Iraqi Government gas stations in Task Force Liberty's area of operations in central Iraq.

Begun last December, the improvements were coordinated and supervised by the 42nd Infantry Division's Oil Team. The 42nd Infantry Division is the command and control element for Task Force Liberty, and Multi-National Division, North Central Iraq.

"Now Iraqis don't have wait six to 12 hours to get fuel," said Maj. Brian Paolillo, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, who is in charge of the 42nd Infantry Division's Oil Team.

The team is responsible for oil security and infrastructure development in Task Force Liberty's Area of Operations, Paolillo said - coordinating \$15 million worth of oil security and infrastructure projects at any one time.

This includes the recent gas station and security improvements. The team coordinated with Iraqi contractors to repair and replace existing

pumps, replace tanks and build four new gas stations.

The team also coordinated with the local Iraqi government agencies to provide Iraqi police escorts for fuel tankers - protecting them from hijackers and black-marketers, and as Paolillo put it, ensuring the "tankers get from the depot to the station."

"In addition to fueling the cars, many of these stations will also provide diesel and other fuels to meet all of the local needs," said Sgt. Brian Huckins, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion and member of the 42nd Infantry Division Oil Team.

"All of this has been possible by the different Coalition Forces working together with the Iraqis to address a need. The results are seeing people able to drive without worrying about running out of gas."

Paolillo emphasized that the improvements are ongoing.

The need for improvements was identified through the team's ongoing dialogue with Iraqi civic leaders. These leaders reported that Iraqi citizens were blaming Coalition Forces for the lack of fuel and long lines at the pump, which is not true, Paolillo said.

**"Now Iraqis don't have to wait six to 12 hours to get fuel."**

*U.S. Army Maj. Brian Paolillo*

"We [Coalition Forces] have our own fuel," he said. Paolillo likened the lines to those at American gas

stations in the '70s energy crisis and oil embargo.

Like then, Iraqi motorists were forming lines the night before to get gas for their vehicles and kerosene fuel for cooking and heating their homes.

"The long lines were at least a headache, and in many cases a major traffic hazard and an uncontrolled mess," Huckins said.

"When you drive by the stations now, you don't see the lines there," Paolillo said. "The wait is down to nothing."



**There are an estimated 82.5 million mothers of all ages in the United States.**

**On average, women can expect to have two children in their lifetime.**

**81% of women 40 to 44 years old are mothers. In 1980, 90 percent of women in that age group were mothers.**

**24.8 is the median age of women when they give birth for the first time - meaning one-half are above this age and one-half are below. The median age has risen nearly three years since 1970.**

**—from the U.S. Census Bureau**



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Iraqi Soldier stops suicide car bomb attack on base

BAGHDAD - A soldier with the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Iraqi Army Brigade stopped a suicide car bomber at an Iraqi Army base in Western Baghdad May 5.

An Iraqi soldier was standing guard at the entrance point of Forward Operating Base Muthana when a suspicious vehicle approached the checkpoint. The soldier signaled the vehicle to stop but the driver began to accelerate, prompting a warning shot. When the vehicle continued to drive towards the checkpoint, the soldier opened fire, detonating the car bomb before it could reach its target. The soldier was wounded by the blast, but he prevented others from the destruction.

"The brave Iraqi soldier exemplifies the courage and selfless service of Iraqi Army soldiers," said U.S. Army Maj. Web Wright, public affairs officer from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. "These guys are in this for the long haul and want to see the insurgents rooted out and stopped."

The soldier was treated by Iraqi Army and Coalition medical personnel. (10th Mountain Division Public Affairs)

## Terrorist suspects arrested

UROBA – Iraqi police arrested a man April 29 who confessed to firing two rockets the day before in Kirkuk Province. He also informed Iraqi police about four others who participated in terrorist activities, including a car bombing in front of the police academy and at a funeral procession the next day which killed multiple police officers.

The man led police to their home, where Iraqi police detained two men. Police confiscated letters, videotapes, award medals, a camera, pictures, documents and a pair of binoculars found in a chicken coop. The detainees had multiple tattoos that are indicative of loyalty to Saddam Hussein. Officials took the detainees and evidence back to Bahim Awa for processing. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqi, Coalition soldiers distribute school supplies to local students

AL ABARRA – Soldiers from the 213th Battalion of the Iraqi Army and Task Force Liberty distributed school supplies and gave English lessons to classes in Kharnabat girls school in Diyala Province April 26. They also assessed the needs of teachers and students. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Oil security battalions meet to discuss security

BAYJI – Members of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Oil Security Battalions, Oil refinery security and an Iraqi Air Force liaison met May 3 in Bayji to discuss security of the oil pipelines in that area. The meeting brought together nearly all the oil security forces, allowing them to coordinate their

activities in securing the oil pipelines. The meetings will now be held weekly in Bayji and Kirkuk. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqi police seek public opinion

AMU SHABI – Arapha police officers on a combined patrol with Task Force Liberty Soldiers spoke with several residents about their concerns in Amu Shabi May 3. The police officers asked residents about the safety of the area, police coverage and projects that could be done in the area. Residents of Amu Shabi were responsive, mostly requesting projects focusing on improving sewage, water and electricity systems. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqi soldiers teach children about unexploded ordnance

BALAD RUZ – Iraqi Army soldiers from the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion and the U.S. Army's 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Engineer Company gave classes to local children at three schools on the hazards of unexploded ordnance May 4 in Balad Ruz. The soldiers taught the children how to report any unexploded ordnance they may find and safety measures in dealing with them. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqis work on border forts in Diyala Province

DIYALA – A contracting company and local contractors are renovating seven forts and constructing four more along the Iraq-Iran border in Diyala Province. These forts will provide additional security to the local population and the border. Each fort provides offices and living space for up to 40 border police. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Terrorists confess on Iraqi weekly talk show

KIRKUK – Two terrorists' confessions were aired on the Iraqi Media Network May 1 in Kirkuk. The chief of police in Kirkuk stated the security situation in Kirkuk is generally stable. The commander of the Iraqi elite security unit discussed nine training classes underway and thanked the public for providing information. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Munitions left along Iraq, Iran border cleaned up by DBE

EASTERN DIYALA PROVINCE – Iraq's Department of Border Enforcement continues to work with Soldiers from Task Force Liberty's 278<sup>th</sup> Regimental Combat Team on Operation Clean Sweep along the border of Iraq and Iran. The mission is to clean up and remove artillery shells, mines and weapons left along the border from the war with Iran in the 1980s. The munitions are a threat to the residents of the area and can be used to create improvised explosive devices. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Border Enforcement gives back to communities with Coalition aid

CHOARTA – The Choarta Department of Border Enforcement, with assistance from Task Force Liberty Soldiers from 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 148<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, distributed kerosene heaters to schools and health clinics throughout the district April 22 in Sulaymaniyah Province. The department handed out 75 heaters within three days.

In Penjwin, the DBE distributed soccer goals to schools April 23 in conjunction with Task Force Liberty Soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 148<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery. Coalition Forces constructed the goals from scrap lumber. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Kirkuk youth discovers, reports IED to police

KIRKUK – A young boy observed a group of individuals placing an improvised explosive device in Kirkuk May 1, and reported it to local police. Iraqi police and Coalition forces disabled the device with a robot. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Coffee shop arrests net suspected insurgents

BAGHDAD – Intelligence information prompted Iraqi police officers to raid a coffee shop, where they arrested the shop owner and several others and confiscated a computer and several CDs.

Officers from the Zuhour police station discovered insurgents were using the shop to plan their attacks, prompting the recent raid. Coalition military police are working with Iraqi police to investigate the group.

## Iraqi police officers repel attack

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Police officers stood their ground and returned fire when insurgents attacked their station with small arms fire May 1.

The police officers were assisted in repelling the attack by a Coalition unit. Iraqi police officers and soldiers pursued two attackers when they tried to flee the scene, capturing them inside two nearby buildings. One insurgent was treated by Coalition medics for a gunshot wound to the arm. The Iraqi police took custody of the suspects and detained them for questioning.

## Joint search uncovers munitions

QAYARRAH – Iraqi Army soldiers working with Coalition forces discovered a large munitions cache here May 1.

The cache consisted of 611 57mm mortar rounds and 25 100-pound bags of propellant.

## Citizen tips assist in IED, weapon discoveries

BAGHDAD – Acting on information from a citizen, Iraqi Army soldiers conducted an early morning raid May 3 that netted numerous weapons and munitions.

Soldiers with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division discovered a suicide belt, two rocket-propelled grenades, two PKC automatic rifles, an anti-personnel rocket-propelled grenade, three anti-armor grenades and 1,500 rounds of PKC ammunition.

In Baqubah, Iraqi police discovered an improvised explosive device May 2 after receiving information from a civilian. An Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team removed the IED, comprised of dynamite and other explosive materials.

## Commando raid uncovers documents, weapons

SALMAN PAK – Iraqi commandos discovered critical insurgent documents, weapons and a possible execution location during an early morning raid here May 2.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi special police commandos discovered significant documents with names of foreign fighters and anti-Iraqi force members during the raid. The commandos also confiscated four hand grenades, four machine gun ammunition belts, one AK-47 automatic rifle, one mortar, three mortar rounds, rocket-propelled grenades and six vehicles in various stages of construction for use as vehicle borne improvised explosive devices. Additional IED materials, auto painting equipment, tools and spare parts were found with the VBIED Jeep Cherokee, KIA Sonata, KIA Minivan, Hyundai Minivan, unspecified minivan and bicycle.

Commandos also uncovered a location that may have been used to execute people. The house contained knives, bloody clothing and bags.

## Looking back

### One year ago in Iraq

**U.S. Army Pfc. Lynndie England -- the woman seen smiling next to naked Iraqi prisoners in several photographs that sparked outrage around the world -- was charged Friday (May 7, 2004) by the military with assaulting Iraqi detainees and conspiring to mistreat them.**

**England pleaded guilty last week to her role in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, but the presiding judge threw out a plea agreement England made with prosecutors and declared a mistrial. Prosecutors will now have to file new charges that could lead to another Article 32 hearing, the military version of a preliminary hearing.**



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Iraqi forces raid house, arrest 13

KARBALA – Iraqi Army soldiers and Karbala police officers conducted a joint raid on a targeted house here May 1 and arrested 13 men believed to be members of Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Militia who were engaging in anti-Iraqi activities.

The raid also uncovered 20 AK-47 automatic rifles and a large amount of medicine.

## Police stop cow with explosives

BABIL – Iraqi police officers discovered a cow strapped with explosives roaming a field near their Al Iman police station recently.

Police officers killed the cow and an Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal unit destroyed the munitions.

## Joint search nets insurgents

DIYARA – A joint search between Iraqi and Coalition forces May 2 secured 53 suspected insurgents, several of whom were named targets.

The raid was conducted by Iraqi soldiers with the 507<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Hilla SWAT team, and Coalition troops.

## Operation brings in 12 suspects

MISRAQ – A cordon and search operation by 450 Iraqi police commandos and 240 Iraqi soldiers in northern Iraq May 2 resulted in the detainment of 13 suspected insurgents.

The commandos and soldiers with the 106<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Division, working with Coalition forces, detained the suspects and secured 13 AK-47 automatic rifles near the Borsa Market.

## Police raid terrorist cell

BASRAH – A raid by Iraqi police here May 1 netted several suspected terrorists and a number of weapons and munitions.

The police raid was prompted by information from the Intelligence Directorate of Basrah. Officers confiscated two 120mm mortars, one heavy rocket, a tank mine, three rifles, 21 hand grenades, a computer and anti-Iraq propaganda.

## ISF spot bomb prior to detonation

MIQDADIYAH – Iraqi police officers here spotted a car loaded with explosives before it was able to detonate May 4.

The white Chevrolet Malibu was parked on the side of a road when the officers found it. The back seat held four 125mm rounds and a remote firing device. In the trunk, officers discovered three rounds ranging in sizes from 122mm to 155mm, a fuel can and a propane tank packed with explosives. The trunk munitions were connected with detonation cord and wired to a 6 volt battery with an antenna.

An explosive ordnance disposal team destroyed the car.

Iraqi Security Forces found or took control of a number of IEDs elsewhere in the country May 4, including:

- A soldier with the 213<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Iraqi Army found an IED made with a hard-wired 122mm projectile near the intersection of two roads in Mansuriyah. EOD cleared the scene.
- In Baqubah, an Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team cleared an area of an IED made with a 155mm round wired to explode with a remote control.
- A citizen tip led Iraqi police to an IED northwest of Khan Bani Sa'ad. The device consisted of two 155mm rounds, one of which exploded while officers were securing the area. No injuries or damage was reported. An Iraqi EOD team disposed of the second round. A patrol of Iraqi police officers discovered four IEDs in Ad Duluiyah, near Balad. The patrol dismantled the IEDs, which were destroyed by an EOD team.

## Iraqi equipment rollup

**A look at some of the equipment delivered to the Iraqi Security Forces this week**

<b>Ammunition.....</b>	<b>2.9 million rounds</b>
<b>AK-47s.....</b>	<b>3,400</b>
<b>Sniper rifles.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>M72 grenades.....</b>	<b>7,512</b>
<b>Individual body armor.....</b>	<b>3,860</b>
<b>Mobile generators.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Ashok Leylands.....</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Chevy Lumina.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Nissan Cabstars.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5-ton trucks.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 1/2-ton trucks.....</b>	<b>7</b>

— Information provided by MNSTC-I J-4

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## Operations net 21 suspects

MOSUL – Iraqi soldiers conducting three separate operations May 4 detained 21 suspects, including a target known as Omar the Butcher and another known for making improvised explosive devices, according to multinational forces reports.

Iraqi Army soldiers with the 101<sup>st</sup> Battalion conducted a cordon and search operation and captured one suspect while he was having a meeting at a coffee house. Information the soldiers gathered from that location led them to another targeted area, where they detained four others. With additional information learned at that location, the soldiers went on to capture a wanted insurgent known as Omar the Butcher. The operation, conducted with Coalition forces, netted 18 suspects.

In another area of Mosul, soldiers with the 106<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Iraqi Army, caught two men who matched the descriptions of wanted terrorists during a raid of the Sheik Al Fathi neighborhood.

A man identified as a producer of IEDs was captured during a raid in another area of Mosul by Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> companies of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division.

## ISF seize suspects, weapons

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Security Forces captured 14 suspected terrorists, found two weapons caches and saved the lives of multi-national forces and innocent civilians when they stopped an attempted car bombing here.

Iraqi Police officers on patrol in the Wehda district of central Baghdad spotted a dark blue Hyundai with the windows blown out. The police investigated and found explosives in the car. The police cordoned off the area and an Iraqi explosives team disposed of the bomb.

Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Army Brigade, 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division conducted a sweep for weapons caches and anti-Iraq forces in the Harbiya district of central Baghdad. In a little over an hour, the Iraqi soldiers detained 10 suspects and found a cache of 50 rocket-propelled grenades, three rocket-propelled grenade launchers and four types of explosives. The suspects and weapons were taken into custody.

Iraqi Army and Task Force Baghdad soldiers found four armor piercing, rocket-propelled grenade rounds concealed by a light cover of soil while conducting a joint patrol in southwest Baghdad.

Further investigation led the soldiers to three suspects and a weapons cache containing more than 5,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, two rockets and detonation cord. They also found initiators, remote detonation devices, wire and cordless phones which could be used to detonate bombs. The three suspects were taken into custody for questioning.

In combat operations in west Baghdad, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers patrolling in west Baghdad noticed a man acting suspiciously prior to entering a house in the

Ghazaliya district. The patrol entered the house and found a weapons cache consisting of 25 feet of detonation cord, two nine volt batteries and three hand grenades. The Soldiers detained the man for questioning.

Another U.S. unit in west Baghdad also found a weapons cache hidden in a warehouse in the Ameriyah neighborhood. The Soldiers found 36 AK-47 assault rifles, a bullet-riddled car, four vests and 12 radios.

Later in the day, an Iraqi civilian provided information to U.S. Soldiers that led to the capture of a terrorist specifically targeted for engaging Coalition forces with sniper fire. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## 180 graduate from police courses

BAGHDAD – The Iraqi Police Service graduated 180 police officers from advanced and specialty courses at the Adnan Training Facility May 5, as part of the Iraqi government's ongoing effort to train its security forces.

The courses consist of Basic Criminal Investigations with 62 graduates, Interview and Interrogations with 39 graduates, Internal Controls Investigation with 29 graduates, Critical Incident Management with 29 graduates, and First Line Supervision with 21 graduates.

The Basic Criminal Investigation course covers topics such as theft, burglary, arson, robbery, sexual offenses, and homicide investigation. Participants also receive instruction and hands-on training in fingerprinting, photography, tool marks and plaster casting techniques. To date, 1,544 police officers have completed this course.

The Interviews & Interrogations course covers advanced interview and interrogation techniques and includes instruction on the preservation and protection of human rights, and the importance of ethical behavior during interviews and interrogations. To date, 281 students have completed this course.

Internal Controls provides training on how to deal with personnel complaints and allegations, as well as police conduct in general. Training includes the processing of complaints and conducting follow-up investigations to determine the facts of allegations made against members of the Iraqi Police Service. There have been 610 officers who have previously graduated from this course.

Critical Incident Management is designed to provide participants with the understanding of and application skills for managing critical incidents. One hundred, seventy-five students have previously completed this course.

First-Line Supervision focuses on major leadership areas for front line supervisors including human rights training, ethics and corruption, policing in a democracy, and interpersonal skills critical to effective leadership. To date, 305 students have previously graduated from this course.

Officers who participated in these courses previously completed either an eight-week basic training course for new recruits or a three-week 'transitional integration program' course designed for prior-service officers.

The police officers will immediately report back for continued duty at their respective stations.